

State of Wisconsin **Department of Health and Family Services**

Jim Doyle, Governor Helene Nelson, Secretary

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DOOR AND KEWAUNEE COUNTY AWARDED FUNDS FOR ALZHEIMER'S PROJECT

(MADISON – July 14, 2005) – The Department of Health and Family Services announced today it is awarding a \$119,354 joint grant to Door and Kewaunee counties for a project that will promote early identification of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

"Early identification of conditions means individuals and families can get the treatment and help they need," said Secretary Helene Nelson. "We commend Door and Kewaunee Counties for their vision and work on a Memory Care Connections project to coordinate diagnosis, treatment, information and services to families."

The Peninsula Memory Care Project, is one of four initiatives that will receive grants from the Department. Each project is a partnership of medical providers that have formed dementia diagnostic clinics, county offices for aging and long-term support, local providers of dementia care, and the Alzheimer's Association. The goal is to make it easier for persons with early stage dementia to get a full range of information and assistance.

The Department will also award grants to Rock County, Jefferson County and to a joint project among Dunn, Chippewa, Barron and Eau Claire counties. These one year grants are renewable for three years. The Department earned the federal funds in a competitive nationwide process from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Aging.

Memory Care Connections projects are operating in partnership with the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute at the University of Wisconsin Medical School. The Institute provides best practice training and current research information to encourage participation in the project by primary care physicians. Memory Care Connections provides nurses and social workers to organize services and caregiver supports.

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